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James Tertius Jardine, together with the late Frederick V. Coville, Albert F. Potter, and Will C. Barnes, and the still living Leon F. Kneipp and Arthur W. Sampson, was a pioneer in range management and range research in this country. His father, an Idaho rancher, had a flair for the classics, and, as James was his third son, gave him the middle name of Tertius.

After the founding of the United States Forest Service in 1905 the range situation soon appeared as a most troublesome problem facing the new organization. With the initiation of grazing permits and fees for use of national forest range the need of scientific range research shortly became apparent.

Dr. Coville was called on for advice; stockmen suggested the appointment of William M. Jardine, later Secretary of Agriculture. The late Dr. Frederic E. Clemmets, the eminent authority on plant ecology, suggested his student, Arthur W. Sampson. William Jardine told Coville, "I am a dairy man; the man you want is my brother, Jim." As a result, James Jardine was appointed in 1907 as a special agent of the Forest Service, later becoming a deputy forest supervisor and still later inspector of grazing. In 1910 he became the first chief of grazing studies (now the division of range management research) in the Forest Service, a position he held until he left the Forest Service in 1920 to become Director of the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station.

In 1907 Jardine started the Billy Meadows fenced pasture experiments on the Wallowa National Forest, northeastern Oregon, which provided the first statistics on what improved management will do with range and range livestock when provided with protection from predators and also gave birth to a better method of handling range sheep--the "bedding out" or open herding system, now generally practiced on better managed sheep range.

In 1910 Jardine initiated range reconnaissance, a system of mapping range areas of the national forests by vegetative types, together with obtaining palatability and quantitative data whereby better estimates could be made of carrying capacity, seasons of grazing, adaptation to class of livestock, needs for fencing, water development, salting, etc. From these studies and his depth of experience a stream of publications appeared, including: "Preliminary report on grazing experiments in a coyote-proof pasture," with an introduction by F. V. Coville (1903); "The pasture system for handling range sheep" (1910); "Coyote-proof inclosures in connection with range lambing grounds" (1911); "Meat situation in the United States" (1916); "Improvement and management of native pastures in the West" (1916); "Increased cattle production on South-western ranges," with Leon C. Hurtt (1917); "Range and cattle management during drought" (1922), and, what is still a classic in its field, "Range management on the national forests," with Mark Anderson (1919). Unfortunately this last work appeared at a time when Congressional action limited the size of Federal agricultural publications to less than 100 pages and much of the valuable material had to be eliminated. During this period Jardine published many articles in technical and livestock journals, dealing with grazing and timber reproduction, range improvement, grazing sheep without water, pastures and sheds on range lambing grounds, etc.

In addition to his practical range experience and his training as an engineer, Jardine had a keen analytical mind, had specialized in English at the University of Chicago, and had taught English at the Utah Agricultural College. As a result he was a superb critic and editor of range manuscripts and all Forest Service publications in this field during his period of service importantly reflect Jardine's services.

Dr. W. A. Dayton
Forest Service
October 26, 1954





